Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—I wish to say one word with regard to this question. This question is part (1) of a series of questions which consists of four parts. These were received on 16th November 1926, and the Member was informed on 20th November 1926 that parts (2), (3) and (4) were disallowed by the President. The Member may see the file himself.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—I shall send this question again.

The Vaniampara—Elanad road.

270. Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—In regard to the opening up of the Vaniampara—Elanad road, will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) if it has abandoned the idea of constructing it *via* Chelakkara;

(2) if the Government has started the survey of the road *via* Palayannur;

(3) whether the route *via* Chelakkara should not be fixed upon, as such a course would open up more country, and promote trade facilities, in greater measure?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(1) No.

(2) The object of the work is mainly to open up the hilly regions of Elanad. The route that appears to be the less costly is being surveyed. It would be almost in continuation of the Lakkidi road, and would extend up to Vaniampara.

(3) Taking the route *via* Chelakkara necessitates negotiating very hilly ridges. The additional advantages on account of this route may not be proportionate to the excess expenditure required. This alignment also will be investigated before final estimates are drawn up.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.— In regard to the last part of the answer to this question, will the Hon'ble Member be pleased to place the estimates before the House, as soon as available?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—As soon as estimates are available, and if the Government finds it necessary, I have no objection.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—The route *via* Chelakkara would be very profitable so that, if the Government will be pleased to place the estimates before they finally decide upon the route, it will be a great advantage. There is also another route *via* Vaniampara-Elanad. The original idea was to run the route *via* Chelakkara, and I now understand survey is going on by another route, *via* Vaniampara-Elanad.

President.—The Chelakkara route is *via* Palayannur.

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Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—I am informed that the Chelakkara route would be profitable and desirable. The objection seems to me on the ground of expenditure, and necessitates negotiating very hilly districts.

President.—At what stage is it now?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The survey is about to be completed in about two or three months. Both routes are being investigated.

President.—Of course, after the lines are surveyed, you will give comparative estimates of the two, and the route, whichever is favourable from all points of view, will be taken up.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Suppose the route has got very steep gradients, it will not be advisable to spend much money upon that.

Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—If you can lay down better proposals whereby these hilly ridges might be avoided, extra expenditure would be certainly necessary. The Chelakkara people may be in a position to suggest easier routes.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—All these observations will be useful, when our final report is sent up.

President.—It is for the purposes of taking into confidence the people of Chelakkara which is, after all, not so difficult.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—As regards taking the people of Chelakkara into confidence, absolutely no confidence, at all, can be placed in their suggestion.

President.—I dare say the Chelakkara people would wish a route through Chelakkara-Palayannur. But we are to arrive at an independent conclusion from all important standpoints as to which route would suit best and not with reference to a particular locality.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—May I put in a word of explanation? I know the locality intimately. The route, which is the closest route to Palayannur through Lakkidi, is the most desirable. Anybody who knows the locality will say that it is waste of money to go through the Palayannur-Chelakkara route. Therefore, the Lakkidi route would be the proper route. I believe that some people in the locality might have requested the Member for Trichur to make this suggestion. I do not think he knows the locality well. To my knowledge, the best route is one through Lakkidi.

President.—I know the route from Chelakkara-Palayannur is called as the (പതിനെട്ടരക്കുന്ന്) Patinettarakkunnu. It consists of 18½ hills. It would be better to avoid that route.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—The Lakkidi route is the Vanimpara route, and Lakkidi is also close to Palayannur, say some 4 or five miles.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—May I be allowed to request that the question time may be extended by 10 minutes ? Much time has been taken up by this desultory discussion. The discussion on buses has taken more than 25 minutes.

Consumption and a Sanatoria for its treatment.

271. Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Will the Government be pleased, referring to statistics, if possible.—

A. (1) whether 'consumption' has not been steadily on the increase among people within the State, during the last ten years ;

(2) whether tubercular patients are refused admission into our hospitals ;

(3) and whether in-patients developing symptoms of consumption are forthwith discharged ;

B. has the Government investigated the suitability of any part of the State, to establish sanatoria for the treatment of consumption according to Western methods ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—A (1) There is an increase in the number of cases of tubercle of lungs seeking treatment.

(2) Not all tubercular patients. Cases of tubercle of lungs are not, as a rule, admitted into the wards.

(3) In-patients developing unmistakable symptoms of consumption are, as a rule, discharged.

B. No; because the climate of this country is unsuited for sanatoria for pulmonary tuberculosis.

Venerial diseases.

272. Mr. A. Sankara Puduval.—Will the Government be pleased to state, referring to statistics, if possible.—

(a) whether venerial diseases have not been unfortunately on the increase among the people of the State during the last ten years ;

(b) whether such State control as is exercised in other countries to prevent the spread of the disease is not feasible and possible ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) It is not possible to furnish the information, but the statistics of the cases admitted and treated in the State medical institutions during the last three years stand as follows:—

Year.	*Syphilis.*	*Gonorrhoea.*
1099	4,691	2,237
1100	6,266	2,870
1101	5,990	3,022

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